



Assessment of Access to potable water supply and wastewater removal

Context

Our country is still exposed to current environmental problems related to the mismanagement of waste, lack of access to residents/businesses to the sewerage system and wastewater spill water currents, careless to public spaces, urban environmental pollution beyond norms allowed etc. Also recently Albanian government due to environmental precarious situation has declared environmental emergency situation. In the first phase and the second of the SENIOR-A program it was conducted an analysis and evaluation of environmental services, where the main problems that were identified was the drinking water supply and wastewater disposal. Although Albania is a country very rich in water resources, drinking water has been one of the most present problems for citizens. Reduced supply schedules, reducing pressure and sanitation as a result of the depreciation of the network look like problems that require a lot of investment and time to resolve.

Goal of the Project

Under this context, civil society network for environmental services management understands that information provided from Water Regulatory Authority regarding to provide water supply and wastewater disposal, in both cases the Rural and Urban, and studies of the primary needs of residents in these areas need to be improved and expanded, in this way is solved the challenge of improving the quality of life and ensure environmental protection.

Project Objectives

- Use and development of network capacity obtained during the second



- phase of the project on behalf informing citizens and different levels of government regarding the level and quality of service provision of drinking water and wastewater disposal.
- Updating and improving the database of the relevant authorities and giving priority to the most urgent problem solving by these authorities.
 - Increase public information relating to the provision of these services by UK companies.
 - Support and generalization of network expertise in evaluating the level of access of the population to the network of water supply and wastewater disposal as well as mapping the percentages of access to these services.

Project Activities

- Workshop/training for activating the network for project implementation and capacity building in the training of groups in the monitoring/evaluation of the situation of water supply and wastewater disposal.
- Roundtables for coordination and local/central cooperation in the network and use of the expertise of networking.

- Identify and review of existing studies that have in consideration fully or partially providing this service.
- Analysis of the current situation in the member cities of the network related to the level of access to residents with drinking water and wastewater disposal by means of a common questionnaire to all cities.
- Open reporting to the findings and results as well as prioritization of the most urgent problems.
- Mapping by GIS system to the level of access of residents in each area above services.
- Publication of the findings of the current situation and comparative analysis for all member cities of the network.

Expected results

- Increased cooperation in the network to exploit the experience and individual capacities.
- Improve of the data in each region on service o the access on drinking water and wastewater disposal.
- Increase the interest of stakeholders to get engage in a process of evaluation and prioritization.
- Unification of the information on the populated areas in 5 regions through mapping the population levels of access to these services.
- They update the information associated with these services in a

About URI

Since 1999 the Urban Research Institute (URI) has been delivering big results for development projects and programmers carried out throughout Albania. Our core business focuses on community development, local government strengthening, environmental protection, decentralization, and public services. We conduct studies, lobby the government, train local government units, increase public access to information, and connect development partners. URI has worked with donors such as USAID, Swiss Cooperation, the Netherlands Embassy, UNDP, World Bank, EU, SIDA, Open Society/Soros Foundation, etc.

database of relevant central and local authorities.

- Increased cooperation between different levels of governments with civil society network management function of environmental services.
- Increase the citizen information regarding their access to water supply system and the removal of wastewater.
- NGOs and individuals are referred to the network organizations for experience in the processes of evaluation/monitoring service drinking water supply and wastewater disposal.
- Mapping the current situation of drinking water supply and wastewater disposal of each region/pilot sites can be updated with new information every year and serve for designing supporting policy and on the processes of the local/regional/central decision making.

Role of Partners

Auleda will play an important role in guiding policies at regional level to protect and improve the environment. Besides the environmental monitoring in line with the Strategic Plan to design technical projects for investment aiming the improvement of environmental problems. Important role in the awareness of citizens and students on recycling as a more efficient way of reducing waste.

The role of **Gjirokastra Foundation** in the network will bring evidence of the problems for "access to water" in the area of Gjirokastra and villages under its jurisdiction. GJF partner will handle other aspects like Water and fire protection, efficient use of water in Historic Areas.

CDC "Today for the Future" is the network partner organization responsible for implementing the project in the city of Durres. The organization is coordinated and cooperates with local government as the Municipality, County and Prefecture of Durres and institutions of reference, raises workgroups survey, data collection and

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reporting them to the leader of the network, the URI in accordance with the requirements and unifications of the data at the network. CDC "Today for the Future" engages youth and community groups and civil society and institutions in Durres in awareness campaign for public services.

Another Vision will be directly implementing this project. In partnership with the members of the network, will enable the realization of the objectives of the project and its results. The realization of anticipated activities will increase the capacity of Another Vision, will cooperate and coordinate with LGUs and institutions of project activities and will report periodically to the leader of the network, the URI. "Another Vision" to be always present and alert in the territory, to sensitize and raise awareness to the general public and LGUs in order to protect the environment and stimulate the software development community character.

"Unë Gruaja" will manage the project throughout its duration. IW will realize the quality of the planned activities within the prescribed time limits. "Unë Gruaja" will participate in all joint activities of the network. "Unë Gruaja" will promote the project of joint initiatives with the network to improve municipal services and local environmental policy implementation in accordance with applicable laws, etc. Will systematically collaborate with local businesses and the local media to promote the 3-year old project within the senior program, prompting its continuity in the future. In the same way will be used the social networks and the official web site: www.unegruaja.org.

MAIN FACTS

DONORS:

- ✓ Government of Sweden/REC

PARTNERS:

- ✓ AULEDA, Vlorë
- ✓ Gjirokastra Foundation, Gjirokastër
- ✓ CDC "Today for the Future, Durrës
- ✓ "Another Vision", Elbasan
- ✓ "Une Gruaja", Pogradec

DURATION:

1 February 2015 to 15 October 2015

BENEFICIARIES:

- ✓ The city of Durrës
- ✓ The city of Vlora
- ✓ The city of Pogradec
- ✓ The city of Gjirokastra
- ✓ The city of Elbasan
- ✓ Residents of these cities
- ✓ General Directorate of Water Supply and Sewerage (GDWSS)
- ✓ Water Regulatory Authority (WRA)

CONTACT:

- ✓ Mirela Koci, Executive Director AULEDA
- ✓ Sadi Petrela, Executive Director of FGJ
- ✓ Fabiola Laço – Egro, Executive Director DSC
- ✓ Afroviti Gusho, Executive Director, "Unë Gruaja"
- ✓ Arian Cala, Executive Director, Another Vision
- ✓ Zana Vokopola Executive Director, Urban Research Institute

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